



Ash Wednesday...

We Are Being Called to Renewal

Wednesday, February 22, 2023

+Those who are able may stand

Ashes imposed as you enter the sanctuary

**Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return*

Prelude Music/Time of Reflection

Sandy Perkins

Reading:

Fast From/Feast On

by William Arthur Ward

+Opening Hymn

Softly & Tenderly (vs. 1 & 3)

418

Confession of Need *(Responsive)*

God, You are life, You are the giver of life's beauty, and You are light that lets us see it. So, tonight, we gather to remember this: While our bodies come from ashes and our lives are filled with weakness, You breathe beauty into both and shame into none. Come close to us now, oh God. Show us the beauty in our ashes so that we might finally claim and hand them over to you. **Humble Us, Hold Us, Heal Us as we name all the ways we need you now.** -

Silence for Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the promises of God: "I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you will be clean from all your uncleanness. From all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my

ordinances." Friends, the promises of God are true: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.



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Scripture Readings

PSALM READING Psalm 51:1-17
EPISTLE READING 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
+GOSPEL READING Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

Reflection *Called to Renewal* Pastor Ruth

Hymn of Preparation *Let us Break Bread Together* 525

Sacrament of Holy Communion



Prayer following Communion with The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

+Sending Hymn *Go My Children, with My Blessing*
547

+Benediction

Postlude Music Sandy Perkins

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Postlude Music

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